

transmitting antenna when the downlink circuitry is frequency locked to signals from one of the first or second satellites (42).

A¹
2. (Amended) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 1, wherein the uplink circuitry (42) is further operative to receive an uplink control signal indicating a frequency locked condition to signals from one of the first or second satellites from the indoor unit (30).

4. (Amended) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 3, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from one of the first or second satellite television signals.

A²
5. (Amended) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 4, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from frequency conversion error data from one of the first or second satellite television signals.

6. (Amended) An outdoor unit (24) for a satellite television ground system (10) comprising:

means for receiving first and second satellite television signals from first and second satellites (16,18);

means for processing the first and second satellite television signals (34,36);

means for providing the processed first and second satellite television signals to an indoor unit of satellite television ground system (38);

means for receiving an uplink signal from the indoor unit (42);

means for processing the received uplink signal (90, 99); and

means for providing the processed uplink signal to a satellite transmitting antenna when the downlink circuitry is frequency locked to signals from one of the first or second satellites.

7. (Amended) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 6, further comprising:

means for receiving an uplink control signal indicating a frequency locked condition to signals from one of the first or second satellites from the indoor unit (42).

A³
11. (Amended) In an outdoor unit (24) of a satellite television ground system (10), a method of providing an uplink communication with a television broadcasting satellite comprising the steps of:

receiving first and second satellite television signals from first and second satellites (16,18);
processing the first and second satellite television signals (34,38);
providing the processed first and second satellite television signals to an indoor unit of the satellite television ground system (32,38);
receiving an uplink signal from the indoor unit;
processing the received uplink signal (42); and
providing the processed uplink signal to a satellite transmitting antenna when the downlink circuitry is frequency locked to signals from one of the first or second satellites (42).

A 3
12. (Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:
receiving an uplink control signal indicating a frequency locked condition to signals from one of the first or second satellites from the indoor unit.

Please add new claims 16 and 17 as follows:

A 4
--16. The outdoor unit of claim 7 where in the presence or the uplink data signal or uplink oscillator signal is required to enable the transmitter section or the outdoor unit.

17. The method of claim 11 in which both an uplink oscillator signal and an uplink data signal indicating successful reception of an encoded data segment is required to enable the transmitter of the outdoor unit.--